# H. R. 2142

To amend title 39, United States Code, to allow absentee ballots in Federal elections to be mailed by voters free of postage.

### IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

May 3, 2007

Mrs. Davis of California introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

## A BILL

To amend title 39, United States Code, to allow absentee ballots in Federal elections to be mailed by voters free of postage.

- 1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-
- 2 tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,
- 3 SECTION 1. MAILING OF ABSENTEE BALLOTS IN FEDERAL
- 4 ELECTIONS.
- 5 (a) In General.—Chapter 34 of title 39, United
- 6 States Code, is amended by adding at the end the fol-
- 7 lowing:

### 1 "§ 3407. Mailing of absentee ballots in Federal elec-

- 2 tions
- 3 "(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection
- 4 (b), any individual casting an absentee ballot in any Fed-
- 5 eral election may mail such ballot free of postage to the
- 6 appropriate election authority. Any envelope or other cover
- 7 containing such ballot shall bear the words 'Absentee Bal-
- 8 lot—No Postage Necessary', or words or other marking
- 9 to that effect specified by the Postal Service, in the upper
- 10 right-hand corner.
- 11 "(b) Exception.—This section shall not apply in the
- 12 case of any mail matter transmitted under the provisions
- 13 of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting
- 14 Act.
- 15 "(c) Definition.—For purposes of this section, the
- 16 term 'Federal election' means a general, special, primary,
- 17 or runoff election held solely or in part for the purpose
- 18 of electing any candidate for the office of President, Vice
- 19 President, Presidential elector, or Senator or Representa-
- 20 tive in, or Delegate or Resident Commissioner to, the Con-
- 21 gress.".
- 22 (b) Clerical Amendment.—The table of sections
- 23 for chapter 34 of title 39, United States Code, is amended
- 24 by adding at the following:

<sup>&</sup>quot;3407. Mailing of absentee ballots in Federal elections.".

#### 1 SEC. 2. TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.

- 2 (a) AMENDMENTS TO TITLE 39.—Sections 2401(c)
- 3 and 3627 of title 39, United States Code, are amended
- 4 by striking "3406" and inserting "3407".
- 5 (b) Additional Amendment.—Section 505(c) of
- 6 the Postal Accountability and Enhancement Act (Public
- 7 Law 109-435; 39 U.S.C. 1217 note) is amended by strik-
- 8 ing "3406" and inserting "3407".

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